THE EXAMINER.

No. 3. *SUNDAY, JANUARY* 17, 1808.

The world in fact are so accustomed to Newspapers, that they would consider their suppression as an eclipse. It would produce a sort of public mourning. The Republic of Letters would then be deprived of a number of pieces, which are the kernel or cream of a Newspaper, and which enable us to read it with advantage.

BAYLE. Dissertation sur les Libelles Diffamatoires; Dict. Hist. et Crit. p. 1307. Edit. Rotterdam, 1697.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.

SWIFT.

No. 3.

ON PARTY SPIRIT.

There is no complaint, which hath been more constantly in the mouths, no grief hath lain more heavily at the hearts of all good men, than those about our national divisions; about the spirit of party, which inspires animosity and breeds rancour; which hath so often destroyed our inward peace, weakened our national strength, and sullied our glory abroad. It is time therefore, that all, who desire to be esteemed good men and to procure the peace, the strength, and the glory of their country by the only means by which they can be procured effectually, shall join their efforts to heal our national divisions and to change the narrow spirit of party into a diffusive spirit of public benevolence.

BOLINGBROKE.

Dissertation upon Parties, p. 7.—1754.

A party-man is one who cares for ten men more than for twenty-thousand, who contests for a certain set of governors without consulting the interests of the governed, and calls every body who differs with him a fool and a knave. But I cannot help thinking, that he who attaches himself to any one party with such extreme vivacity as to go all lengths with it, is as pitiable a simpleton as he who should persist in going four miles on a road when the object of his journey lay before his eyes at the end of two miles. It is an unfortunate truth, that a politician, like a lover, is never reckoned staunch to his sentiments till he has shewn that he can commit any folly for their sake. Ever since there were parties in a state, or in other words, ever since there were different passions in different men, this love of extremity has scattered the energies of government and thrown the political wranglers at a hateful distance from each other. They retire to this distance however, not to separate or to pursue their distinct meditations to advantage, but like true wrestlers to gather a more violent impetus for concussion; and while the spectators are occupied in viewing, or encouraging, or assisting the battle, the country is deprived of that massive unity of support, which can alone resist the thousand enemies that attack it in a thousand ways.

A party-man, it is true, is the first to exclaim against bigoted attachments, but so is a quack to exclaim against imposture, and a sectary against differences of faith. The political bigot may affect a hatred of bigotry, but his temper always betrays him: nothing can hide it, not even the mask of manly indignation or of ardent patriotism: it gives that bitterness to his affected gravity, that tartness to his affected gaiety, that restlessness to his affected repose, which are always the result of concealed malice and disappointment. Bad temper is a punishment by which Providence makes us revenge our own errors upon ourselves; and whenever it displays itself in the midst of deliberate controversy, it should always be regarded as an unconscious acknowledgement that it's possessor is dissatisfied with himself.

How infinitely amusing sometimes, and how excessively disgusting in general, are the political quarrels of our newspapers! Day after day we are presented with expostulations, invectives, and recriminations. There is nothing like generous spirit, like candour, like a manly opposition that stops occasionally to agree. Every thing that A does is wrong with B: every thing that B does is excesssively nonsensical with A: if A opens his mouth, the other exclaims "I don't believe a word you are going to say:" if B offers to give a little advice, his adversary cries out, "Here's a fellow who would ruin his country!" All this is because each of them happened to be attached to some minister, living or dead, who has very likely done nothing at all for the country but multiplied it's parties and divided it's strength.

I do not mean to undervalue political any more than moral friendship: I respect the man who can adhere to his own sentiments with resolution, but this resolution should be temperate and modest, not a furious intolerance, deaf to every thing but it's own clamour: when politicians occupy themselves in mere wrangling, they are seized with the most senseless spirit of knight-errantry, which instead of combating it's proper foes, runs about to knock every body down who does not regard it's imaginary idol as a masterpiece of perfection. It is the dotage, not the sentiment itself, of political attachment, which is unworthy an Englishman.

"It is a man's duty," says Bishop ATTERBURY, "to keep himself always from embarking in parties and factions, and falling in with vehemence into all the

interests and designs of them. This will necessarily in time imbitter his spirit, and sour his humour, make him like and dislike men implicitly, and lead him into many resentments which he has nothing to do with." These observations are the more valuable, as they were founded on experience. There is nothing more monstrous than the dislikes and heart-burnings which arise from political questions, since one would imagine, that the very subject of these questions, the welfare of the state, would inspire us with a temperate deliberation. The old maxim, *Idem sentire de republica*—to think alike on political matters—has been thought necessary to the preservation of private friendship, and though I am sure that this maxim is in general of no private concern to strong minds and good hearts, yet it is not only indispensible in public friendships, but absolutely necessary even in private to the great majority of mankind, who are always peevish and vain in proportion as they are foolish. But if a man happens to go into some companies and to mention with admiration any peculiar trait in Mr. Fox's character, the whole room is alarmed: nobody inquires what his opinion of Mr. Pitt may be; it is enough that he praises the colour of red and he can have no possible liking for the colour of blue. It is the same in the other companies with the praise of Mr. Pitt: if you happen to applaud one of his measures, every body changes his manner towards you; one sneers, another expresses an incredulous astonishment, a third shrugs up his shoulders in a corner with a sort of piteous patience at your ignorance, while a fourth spills his tea and almost chokes himself with swallowing his toast to make you an answer full of bitter violence: and these men will insist that you cannot have any admiration of two persons at once, while they are drinking both tea and coffee, and after they have dined upon twelve opposite dishes.

If you profess however no particular admiration for either statesman, the case is still worse: you are driven to and fro from party to party, like a shuttlecock; nobody can possibly imagine how you can like neither fish nor fowl; the Pittites call you Jacobin and leveller, and the Foxites cry out against you as a conspirer against liberty: at any rate it is universally settled that you must be a being void of all sense, feeling, and common honesty. What, Sir, neither Pittite nor Foxite, nor Windhamite, nor Wilberforcite, nor Burdettite?" Bless my soul, Sir, then what are you? *Who are your friends, or what are your prospects?* Were you born in England?

A. Sir, I am an Englishman who chuse to think for myself.

B. That is very odd. What, is there no statesman whose opinion you follow?

[illegible] admire the abilities of many and [illegible]w; but able and worthy men are very often wrong, and when I think them so, I chuse to differ from them. I am content to walk after them in their straight paths but not in their eccentricities: I follow no traveller into a ditch, because he generally walks like a reasonable man. Is it so very odd that an Englishman enjoys his freedom of opinion?

B. *(aside.)* This is a very dangerous fellow! He talks about freedom of opinion!—Well, Sir, for my part I glory in being a staunch Pittite.

C. D. and E. *(all at once.)* Ah, Mr. B. you know you don't know much about politics.

C. Mr. Fox was the man, Sir; he was the only clever minister this country produced since Lord Burleigh.

B. D. and E. Oh Lord: here's bigotry with a vengeance!

D. Fox had no talent. Mr. Canning now, if you please. There's scholarship and politics at once! For my part—

B. C. E. Ay, now we shall have some Anti-Jacobin cant. What stuff is this?

E. Stuff indeed. The truth is, that the country is in a horrible situation. Only look at the new Redbook; it is twice the size of last year's. That Redbook is the Devil's own pocket-remembrancer.—*(Starting up)*—Burdett is the only man who can save the country.

B. C. D. Ah, ha, ha!

E. Ay, you may laugh if you please, but you'll cry soon. I repeat, *(thumping the table)* that a Burdettite is the only cool, rational thinker we have, the only maintainer of true freedom of opinion, and every body who differs from Sir Francis is a corrupt, violent, mean, pitiful, nonsensical, tyrannical, hypocritical, slandero—

B. C. D. *(holding their ears.)* Oh Lord! Oh Lord! For mercy's sake, E, don't expose yourself. Why you whisper moderation, and then blow a hurricane.

B. *(aside.)* What a pack of fools are C. D. and E.!

C. *(aside.)* What a set of jackasses have I got among!

D. *(aside.)* What a tribe of miscreants!

E. *(aside.)* What poltroons, knaves, and miserable wretches!

Such is the farce of political disputes both in private and public. In the mean time these amiable quarrels will teach us one melancholy truth, which shall unmask all this pretended patriotism, for it must be evident to every dispassionate thinker, that these men do not exert their faculties half so much for the public benefit as in mere contradiction and reproach. In fact, all the violent newspaper disputants care very little for any thing but their own enrichment and the mortification of their rivals, and so miserably mean do I reckon them, that I make no doubt they have very often rejoiced at the misfortunes of their country

merely because they may have chanced to prophecy them.

In the name of reason and good manners, let us learn to avoid every kind of party-spirit, whether it attacks us in the shape of newspaper wranglers, of disturbers of dinners, or disturbers of coffee-houses. I would not wish to hinder any writer from expressing his sentiments, but let him have a respect for the peace of the commonwealth and the good order of society: I would not wish to deprive any warm old gentleman of his coffee-house comforts or of his favourite newspaper which he holds on the other side of the candle and snores over through his spectacles with elevated chin and dropped jaw: I have no objection to his *hums* and his *has*, to his sagacious shakes of the head, or to any sober observations he may make in the intervals of his tobacco-pipe: but I beseech him to govern his fancy after his second pint of wine, for he has really no good excuse for shortening his days and agitating his whole system by calling every body fool who differs with him. For my part, whenever I see a number of violent talkers or scribblers fighting each other with words, like two Turkish porters in the streets of Aleppo, I recall to my mind the philosophic policy of a witty friend of mine, who settles every dispute upon political subjects by putting his hand into his waistcoat pocket and proposing to "toss up for it."

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PARIS.

JAN. 7.—The *Moniteur* of this day contains the English Declaration in answer to that of Russia, with a commentary.

On the following passage of the Declaration,

"His Majesty was not unaware of the nature of those engagements which had been imposed on Russia in the conferences of Tilsit;" (1)

the *Moniteur* says,—

(1) We are authorised to declare that no secret engagement was formed at Tilsit, which concerned England in any way. Why does not the Cabinet of London make known those secret engagements injurious to England, if acquainted with them? Their mere disclosure would justify its conduct to Europe, and redouble the zeal of every English citizen. But it is the custom of this Government to begin with a falsehood to authorise injustice. When it was resolved in violation of the Treaty of Amiens, not to evacuate Malta, it declared that the French ports were filled with vessels for a descent on England, when there was not the least armament in those ports. When it seized a few millions of piastres in four Spanish frigates it lied equally gross. When it wished to excuse the inexcusable expedition against Copenhagen, it had recourse to false suppositions. But England does not believe in secret engagements of Russia against her. If it did, why did it when it made that discovery which induced it to attack Copenhagen, permit the Russian squadron to clear the Straits of Gibraltar, and three Russian ships to pass through the English force blockading Copenhagen? Why have recourse to the mediation of Russia, to conciliate its disputes with Denmark, three months after the Tilsit Treaty, when they say that they undertook the expedition against Denmark only to "oppose the execution of the arrangements of Tilsit, and to defeat one of their objects." By what miserable councils are the affairs of England directed!

On that paragraph in the Declaration which expresses the hope his Majesty had entertained that a *review of the transactions of that unfortunate negociation* would have induced his Imperial Majesty to extricate himself from the embarrassment of those new counsels and connections he had adopted in a moment of despondency and alarm, the *Moniteur* says, (2)

(2) We will not lay any stress on the tone of this paragraph: we will only observe the difference which subsists between the Declaration of Russia and the Answer of England. The first is the noble language of a Prince who respects supreme rank and the dignity of nations; the last, the gross insolence of an oligarchic club, which respects nothing—which seeks to humiliate by its expressions, and for want of good reasons, has recourse to calumnious imputations, and insulting sarcasms.

On that part of the Declaration which complains of the Secret Articles, the *Moniteur* observes, (3)

(3) The Emperor of Russia was desirous that England should be sensible of the effects of his ancient attachment; and required of France to accept his mediation. England, instead of accepting it with eagerness, answered so great generosity by insulting distrust; requiring the Secret Articles of the Treaty of Tilsit which concerned her, to be communicated to her. She was answered that there were no such Secret Articles.

The Declaration asserts, that the interests of Russia, in the late war, was at least as immediate as those of Britain. The *Moniteur* replies, (4)

(4) If the Ministers of London wished to persuade Europe that they were not in connection with Russia when the war broke out between France and Prussia, they ought to efface from the memory of every one the pieces they published on the events of 1805. Public facts prove, that for England alone Austria and Russia have made war. When Austria had made peace, and Russia remained at war with France, a Russian Plenipotentiary signed a treaty of peace at Paris. Russia did not sign it, for the sole reason, that having made war in conjunction with England, it was in concert with her she wished to make peace. Thus for her sake Russia continued war, and not for Prussia, for she owed nothing to that Power; for it had separated itself from its Allies, and concluded apart her arrangements with France. The occupation of Hanover by Prussia was against the will of Russia, who was obliged to march to the Vistula on account of her war with France since 1805, and to defend herself.

On the defence the Declaration makes against the charge of neglecting the cause of the Allies, the *Moniteur* says (5,)

(5) If the English squadron which forced the Dardanelles had united with the Russian, had taken on board the 10,000 men sent to Egypt, with the 12,000 Russians at Corfu, the attack on Constantinople would have been an effectual diversion for Russia. After her disgrace before that city, her expedition to Egypt did not deprive the Grand Vizier of a single man, and had nothing in common with Russia. If to 12,000 men, who capitulated in the streets of Buenos Ayres, England had joined 15,000, who since set Copenhagen in flames, Russia would not have been able to complain. It was of little moment to the Cabinet of London that two Nations were massacring each other on the banks of the Vistula; the treasures of Monte Video and Buenos Ayres excited her cupidity, and Dantzic received no succours. Is it not evident that 20,000 Spaniards, 40,000 French from the Army

of Italy, with 24,000 Dutch troops at Hamburgh, would by the month of July, form an army more than sufficient to render futile all the efforts of England? Succours ought therefore to have been sent, not in July, but April. But the Hanoverian Legion was not then formed, and England did not choose to employ national troops. But was she able to send 40,000 to Dantzic, or Stralsund? If she answers, No, she is a very weak and miserable nation. But the Ministers wanted inclination. They wish only for piratical operations; they calculate the results of war at so much *per cent*, and think only of profit; but the fields of Poland presented nothing but danger and glory. If England had taken some part in battles, English blood must have been spilt; the British people on learning the sacrifices required by war, would have wished for peace; mourning fathers and mothers weeping for children fallen in the field of honour, might have produced even in the hearts of Ministers the same sentiments which a long war has inspired in the French, Russians, and Austrians. If the British Cabinet, in its turn, could not prevent itself from feeling a horror at perpetual war, its men of blood would be execrated by the people. Land war is not like a war by sea. The strongest fleet does not require more than 15,000 men well supplied with provisions, and having no privations to suffer. The greatest sea-fight is not equal to a skirmish at land, and costs but little blood and tears.—France, Austria, and Russia, employ armies of 400,000 men, exposed to all sorts of dangers, and who are daily fighting. The desire of peace arises in the bosom of victory, and in sovereigns, the fathers of their people, it has a place among the dearest sentiments of their hearts. The English do not revolt at not assisting their allies, nor at the barbarous maxim of perpetual war, because care is taken to remove from them the sacrifices of war. It is thus during four coalitions, England has laughed at the carnage of the Continent, and fed its commerce with human blood. England has acquired her superiority at sea by treachery at Toulon, and in La Vendee. To the convulsions which she has excited, she has only opposed a few line-of-battle-ships, and some thousands of men.

On the Declaration asserting that the vexation of Russian commerce is an imaginary evil, the French Editor remarks, (6)

(6) Though the Admiralty Court had only condemned one ship more than a hundred have been stopped, searched, and detained by England, twelve of which have been condemned since the Manifesto.

The Declaration states, that his Majesty did not refuse Russia's offer of mediation, but only required to know the basis on which France woul treat, and the Secret Articles of the Treaty of Tilsit: he replies, (7)

(7.) England says this, and yet the very day that her answer to that offer appeared, her troops, in entering Copenhagen, declared war against Russia and the whole Continent. Her answer to Russia was read by the light of the conflagration at Copenhagen. The answer was, that she wished to know the basis of the negociation—a wretched shift! Lords Yarmouth and Lauderdale knew those bases.

That part of the Declaration which represents the unworthy treatment of Prussia by France since the Treaty of Tilsit, is thus animadverted on: (9.)

(9) No new contributions have been levied on Prussia. Part of that country has not been evacuated, because of the Copenhagen expedition, because the Prussian Minister, too friendly to England, is still in London; because, in short, Russia and France must understand each other. As to the deaths of *Prussian subjects, and the surrender of Prussian fortresses, which could not be reduced during the war*, the French make war loyally, and do not murder the peaceful subjects of conquered countries. Instead of seizing, they protect private property. But why should not the French exact a little from her enemies? They have 800,000 troops, and are ready to double the number, if necessary. England has rouzed a giant, which it contrives to irritate incessantly, but which for fifteen years past has only added to his energy. He will continue his force till he has conquered the liberty of the seas. If the French troops are burthensome to conquered countries, England is the cause, and of all the calamities of Europe. When England is disposed for peace, France will be ready to make it.

The reply of the Declaration to the charge of having insulted Russia, by requesting her mediation with Denmark, is thus answered. (10)

(10) England wished Russia to guarantee Denmark from the resentment of France, at the time she declared her violence to Denmark was offered only to guarantee herself from the secret engagements contracted at Tilsit by Russia. It is hard to determine which is most surprising, the bad reasoning or immorality of the Court of London.

The Declaration states, that the first symptom of reviving confidence in Britain after the Tilsit Treaty, was shewn by the Russian Court, when it had recently received intelligence of the siege of Copenhagen. The French writer on this remarks, (11)

(11) If this is true, it is not because the Russian Emperor felt no resentment, but hopes of softening the ferocity of England by gentle measures. Russia replied to her request of mediation with contemptuous silence, and fortifying her coasts. This request proved that England did not think Russia formed secret engagements at Tilsit inimical to her interests.

The remarks on the 12, 13, 14, and 15 paragraphs are uninteresting. On this passage in the 16th, the last negociation between France and England was broken off upon points immediately affecting, not his Majesty's own interests, but those of his Imperial Ally, the *Moniteur* remarks (16)

(16) People of Europe, hear this! It was not France which opposed peace; it was not the important interests of England; it was Russia alone which opposed obstacles. Well then, when this obstacle no longer exists, why does England object to peace? why does she violate the flag of every nation? why does she, in place of negociating, ask on what basis France will treat?

On that part of the Declaration which proclaims anew the principles of the Maritime Law, the *Moniteur* remarks—

All the Powers of the Continent say they proclaim anew the principles of the armed neutrality. *England proclaims anew the principles of her maritime laws.* This opposition of principles will not be an impediment to peace. The Powers of the Continent *in proclaiming anew the principles of the armed neutrality*, only announce the maxims they propose to act on the next maritime war, and England the maxims she intends acting on in her next war. If she should raise the novel pretension of imposing on the Continent the obligation of subscribing to her maritime laws, it is the same as if she were to proclaim everlasting war, or to fix as the termination of war the moment when she should have seized on Petersburgh, Paris, Vienna, and Madrid.

GERMANY.

VIENNA, DEC. 2.—Our *Court Gazette* contains the following article from Turkey:—The tranquillity which prevailed on the frontiers of Bosnia, has again been disturbed. About the end of September the cordon of Turkish troops, formed on the Banks of the Dwina and Buzawa, was reinforced with 9000 men,

by which means its strength was increased to 25,000. The Servians were no sooner informed of this circumstance than they crossed the Buzawa, and gave battle to the Turks on the 15th October, in which the latter were completely routed. So far from the Russians making the least preparations for evacuating Moldavia and Wallachia pursuant to the armistice, another Russian corps is on its march thither from Mohilow, under the command of Major General Prince Apraxin, who is already arrived in Bucharest, the head-quarters of the General in Chief, Prince Prosorowsky. The Russian advanced posts have been lately considerably reinforced, and all the correspondence and commercial intercourse with Turkey, are strictly prohibited."

HAMBURGH, DEC. 19.—It seems to be now certain, that the King of Sweden will not depart from the line of conduct he has hitherto pursued, and that he has resolved not to listen to proposals made to him by the Court of Petersburgh, of co-operating in the measures taken by the Northern Powers against the maritime despotism of England. A rupture between him and Russia is therefore looked upon as inevitable.

BANKS OF THE MAINE, DEC. 5.—Some public journals state, that a parts of the Conscription of 1809, will be immediately raised by anticipation. We are assured that, similar to the last year, a Senatus Consultum will be issued, by which 120,000 youths of this class, will be placed at the disposal of Government; namely, a part for the present army and a part for the reserve; although peace is established on the Continent, nevertheless the great extent of country occupied by the French armies, requires a reinforcement of fresh troops.

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, NOV. 10.—The Ottoman Porte has, by a letter written to the Russian Court, given full satisfaction for the late conduct of the Ottoman Ministry towards Baron Senft Von Pilsach, and no doubts are entertained of the speedy return of the Russian Embassy. Delecadu, the late ring-leader of the rebels in Romelia, has been taken and beheaded, with about thirty of his accomplices.

ITALY.

VERONA, NOV. 25.—The number of French troops which are still in Dalmatia, Istria, and the Venetian State, is estimated at 70,000 men. These will be reinforced by 30,000 French and Italians, who are coming from the Grand Army.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, DEC. 22.—We learn, by letters from Rome, that the celebrated Painter Angelica Kaufman, who lately died in that place, left the whole of her very considerable fortune to indigent widows and orphans, and other poor, who all followed her hearse in funeral procession, joined by the celebrated Sculptor Cosanova, and all other distinguished Artists now residing in Rome.

DECEMBER, 26.—Letters from Cronstadt state, that 16 sail of the line, and 125 gun-boats are lying in the ports of that City. The French army in Dalmatia seems destined for very important operations. Some are of opinion, that it is to occupy the Turkish provinces; but according to others, it is to march through Constantinople and Egypt to Bengal.

STATE PAPERS.

UKASE.

St. Petersburgh, Nov. 8 (19), 1807.

By our Ukase of the 28th October last, to the Minister of Commerce, Count N. Raumiantzoff, regarding the laying on an embargo upon the English property in Russia, we ordered liquidation commissions to be formed here, at Riga, and at Archangel, under the controul of the College of Commerce. On the representation of the Minister, that the liquidation Comptains appointed in 1800, were, by their mode of conducting business of this nature, perfectly adequate to the object in view, we now order that liquidation commissions be at present appointed, in every respect, strictly according to the principles and spirit of the Ukase given the 25th of November, 1800, upon a report of the College of Commerce in consequence of the embargo laid that year on the property of the English, with this only alteration, that the fixed number of Russian merchants to be chosen for the liquidation commission of this plan, be not otherwise appointed than with the confirmation of the Minister, and in the other towns with the confirmation of the Chief Authorities contiguous thereto. The said Commissioners are to take cognizance of all the goods and property of the English which were embargoed by our Ukase of the 28th (ult.) October, 1807; and this sequestration is to be extended to all their capital monies and bills, excepting their monies placed in our Banks, which, by the laws, are in no case to be touched. The Counsellor of State, and Member of the College of Commerce, Baikoff, is to preside in the Commission here.

Sent to the Senate the 8th of November, 1807; under his Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.

Countersigned by Count Nicolay Raumiantzoff.

Published by the Senate the 11th of November, 1807.

PROCLAMATION.

Cassel, December 17.

We Jerome Napoleon, by the Grace of God and the Constitution, King of Westphalia, French Prince, &c. &c. to our good and lawful Subjects, and inhabitants of our kingdom of Westphalia, greeting:—

Westphalians, Divine Providence has pointed this æra in order to unite your scattered provinces under one august institution, together with neighbouring families, though strangers to each other.

I come to occupy this Throne, prepared by victory, raised by the assent of the greatest Powers of Europe, founded on a title no less sacred, by your real interest.

Too long has your country suffered from the pretensions of families and the intrigues of Cabinets: you were exposed to all the calamities of wars, and you were excluded from all the benefits of peace. Some of your towns only reaped the barren honour of annexing their names to treaties, in which nothing was overlooked but the well-being of those who inhabited them.

How widely different are the results of the wars stirred up against the head of my house! It is for nations that Napoleon has conquered; and each of the treaties he has concluded, is a step farther towards the end proposed by his mighty genius, of giving to entire nations a political existence, governments and laws, dictated by wisdom, the establishment to each of them of a country, and the dereliction hereafter of none in that deplorable nullity, in which they were equally unable either to steer clear of war, and avail themselves of peace.

Westphalians! Such was the issue of the battles of Marengo, of Austerlitz, of Jena; such now is for you the result of the memorable treaty of Tilsit. On that day you

obtained the first of blessings, a country. Far be now removed from your recollection those scattered dominations, the last result of the feudal system, which prepared a master for each city—these different interests are now to form but one—your master now is the law—your protector, the Monarch, who is to cause it to be respected; henceforth you shall have no other.

Westphalians, you have got a constitution adapted to your manners and to your interests; it is the fruit of the meditations of a great man, and of the experience of a great nation; its principles are in unison with the present state of the civilization of Europe, and are big with prospects of improvement, which will far overbalance the sacrifices which this new order of things may impose upon some of you. You must, therefore, attach yourselves to it with confidence, since upon it rests your liberty and your prosperity.

In ascending the Throne, I contracted the obligation of making you happy, and I will be faithful to it. The equality of the modes of religion shall be maintained, property assured and guaranteed. Thus shall there be established between me and my people an alliance of wishes and of interests, that shall never change. Westphalians, your Sovereign henceforward relies on your fidelity and inviolable attachment.

Given at our Royal Palace of Cassel, the 15th December, 1807, and the first of our Reign.

JEROME NAPOLEON.

FROM THE AMERICAN PAPERS.

NORFOLK, DEC. 4.—An occurrence of yesterday has excited some interest, arising from the recollection of a recent circumstance. A French seaman, belonging to the French ship L'Impeteux, the ship that was destroyed by the British on this coast, had some time since entered at Baltimore, on board one of the gun-boats in the service of the United States. Yesterday he deserted, and got on board the tender of the French ship Le Patriote, declaring his wish to return into the service of his country. The Officer commanding the gun-boat discovered, and demanded the seaman, when the French Officer refused to deliver him. Some discussion was had, when the American Officer departed, under an expectation, or a promise that the man should not be removed until the affair could be represented to Commodore Decatur. While the Officer was on board the Chesapeak waiting the orders of Commodore Decatur, and for a letter which he was then writing to the French Commander, the Patriote's boat passed with the seaman in question on board, upon which orders were issued by the Commodore, to man one of the Chesapeak's boats, and pursue the French boat, with orders to his Officer to endeavour to prevail on the French Officer to return and come along-side the Chesapeak, but to bring the deserter back at all events. Upon the boat's getting along-side some altercation ensued, partly, we understand, by accident, and without design to injure or offend. The French Officer, we understand, agreed to return to the Chesapeak. Afterwards some correspondence took place between Commodore Decatur and the Commander of the Patriote, the contents of which we are not informed of. We understand that both Officers adhered, the one in refusing, and the other insisting; the result however is, that the man was taken and carried on board the Chesapeak, where he now remains, until the pleasure of Government shall be known.

NEW YORK, DEC. 14.—The American schooner Revenge, Capt. Reed, arrived at this port on Saturday evening, in 26 days, from Cherbourg. Capt. Reed is the bearer of very important dispatches from France for our Government. He left this city yesterday morning, for Washington. Capt. Reed informs, there is every prospect of the existing differences between this country and Great Britain being amicably settled; and also that Bonaparte has declared, that there shall no longer be *any neutrals*; and that if this country should send a Minister to the Court of St. James's, after a certain period, he would consider it as a declaration of war. This account corroborates the report that Turreau had demanded of our Government to shut its ports against Great Britain. The Act prohibiting the importation from Great Britain of certain goods, wares, and merchandise, goes into operation this day.

DEC. 16.—It is stated from Washington, that Congress are about investing the President with power to suspend the Non-importation Act, if, in his opinion, the state of our relations with England should require such a measure. When we stated in our last the circumstance respecting the French seaman, we did not know that two of the seamen belonging to the United States service had been, within a few days past, taken down on board the Patriote; but which we are assured from good authority is a fact, whether by force or by their own consent we are not informed.—*Norfolk Ledger.*

A Bill, Supplementary to the Act, intitled "An Act to prohibit the Importation of certain Goods, Wares, and Merchandize."

Sect. 1.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled; that nothing in the Act to which this is a Supplement, shall be so construed as to prohibit the importation of the following articles, that is to say;—

First—Wrappers and outside packages in which goods, the importation of which is not prohibited, usually are and shall be wrapped or packed at the time of their importation.

Second—Bags or sacks in which salt shall be imported.

Third—Glass bottles or phials, in which drugs, medicines, or any other article, the importation of which is not prohibited, shall be imported.

Fourth—Printed books, maps, and charts.

Fifth—Watches, mathematical, astronomical, and surgical instruments.

Sixth—Shalloons and woollen stuffs.

Sec. 2.—And be it further enacted, That the articles of the following description shall be held and considered as being embraced by the description of articles, the importation of which is prohibited by the Act to which this Act is a Supplement, that is to say;—

All articles manufactured entirely of silk and wool, or of silk or flax, or of flax and wool;

Floor-cloths;

Woollen cassimeres, carpets, carpetting, and mats, whose invoice prices shall exceed 5s. sterling per square yard.

Sec. 3.—And be it further enacted, That whenever a doubt shall arise whether any article imported into the United States is embraced by the description of articles, the importation of which is prohibited by the Act to which this Act is a Supplement, the Comptroller's decision thereon, approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall be

final and conclusive, and be taken and held in every respect as the true construction of the Act.

Sec. 4.—And be it further enacted, That no articles which shall be imported from any place beyond the Cape of Good Hope, on board any vessel, cleared out before the day of , from any port within the United States or the territories thereof, for the said Cape of Good Hope, or any place beyond the same, shall be subject to the prohibition enacted by the Act to which this Act is a Supplement.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

On Sunday morning last, at Finshade, near Stamford, about three o'clock, a gun was discharged close to Mr. Moncur's bed room window, which so much alarmed his wife, that she immediately got up; but before she reached the window, another shot was fired through the shutter into the room, which fortunately did her no injury. A light was procured, when it was found that several large shots had lodged in the walls of the room close to the bed. A villain has for months lurked about the neighbourhood, and it is imagined that some exertions to prevent poaching has been the cause of this murderous attempt.

Two men, named Edward Davy, late of Newington, a hatter, and Thomas Meek, his wife's brother, were committed, on Monday last, from Henley, in Oxfordshire, to Oxford Castle for trial, on five charges of uttering forged Country Bank notes. The case that led to their detection was the uttering one of 5l. to Mr. Plumbe, a mercer, at Henley, in payment of some stockings, which note purported to be a note of the Ipswich and Suffolk Bank, in the firm of Ralph Houlton, and Co. and made payable at St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill.—After he had taken it, and given the change, something excited his suspicion, and he pursued them to an adjacent village, and brought them back to Henley. As they would not say who they were, or from whence they came, Mr. Plumbe sent to Collingbourne, at Union-hall, who came down and recognized them as old acquaintances. Some notes for 5l. and 1l. of the same description were found concealed in their hats, and they were seen to throw some others into the fire.

A melancholy accident happened on New-Year's Day, at the church of Painswick, Gloucestershire. As the bell-ringers were ringing in the new year, one of the bells broke from its station, and forcing its way through three floors, fell among the ringers. One man was killed on the spot, and several others were dreadfully bruised and wounded.

Sussex, Jan. 9.—This morning James Smith, who was apprehended about a fortnight since, on suspicion of being the man who has committed the numerous robberies in the neighbourhood of Emsworth and Havant, was re-examined at Havant. It appeared that on the morning of the evening that Messrs. Hayles and Snook were robbed, Smith was busy cleaning his gun, and at the time of that robbery he was from home. A great coat, exactly answering the description of the one worn by the robber, was also afterwards hung to dry on Smith's premises. Mr. Chatfield, of Emsworth, who, it will be remembered, was so badly wounded by a footpad, said, that the gun produced as belonging to Smith, was very similar to the one he was shot at with, and that the shot which wounded him were of the same size as those in the possession of Smith. It appeared that his neighbours in general were very suspicious of him; and on the evening of the 17th of December, when three persons were robbed on the road between Havant and Emsworth, he was seen to return home about eight o'clock, with a gun on his shoulder. He had in more than one instance endeavoured to persuade a man of the name of Sims to commit robberies with him, particularly to steal logs from Emsworth quay, and to break open warehouses. He was re-committed for farther examination.

Horsham, Jan. 12.—During the stay of the detachment of the 52d regiment here on Sunday last, an injury was sustained by Mr. Lee, of the King's Head Inn, in the loss of one of his horses, by the most singular barbarity. A horse of Mr. Lee's had been confined to the stable for some days by a broken knee.—In the afternoon of the Sunday one of the stable-helpers went in to see the horse, and found him in great agony, while his hind quarters were covered with blood, the latter of which appearing the source from whence it arose; advancing to the head of the animal he stumbled on a man, who appeared to be asleep, with his head under the manger; on rousing him he appeared to be a private of the 52d; the man observing him without his jacket, his shirt-sleeves rolled up, and his hands and arms bloody, instantly exclaimed, "you have run your bayonet into the horse!" who immediately replied, "I have no bayonet!" and was then making his way out of the stable, when the lad stopped him and called for assistance, which brought Mr. Lee from the house; but so resolute was the menacing tone of the soldier delivered, upon threat of detention, that with more pusillanimity than propriety of conduct, he was suffered to depart, under the vague idea of knowing him again when the men should muster, and the more readily be taken in custody. This Mr. Lee attempted in the morning of Monday, but without success, and the villain has for the present escaped. The distress and groans of the poor suffering animal now became so afflicting that it was found adviseable to end his miseries with death. On inspection of that part of the body where the injury had been received, it was found in such state as cannot be described. The whole of this inhuman action is ascribed to revenge.

In the church-yard at Dunstable, Bedfordshire, is an epitaph on a woman who had nineteen children at five births, in the following manner:—at the three first births, three each time: and at the two next, five each birth.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

Samuel Lucas Payne, 'Change-alley, London, hatter, to surrender Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 23, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Godman, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

James Read, late of Blackman-street, Southwark, linen-draper, Jan. 19, at ten, 26, Feb. 23, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Samuel White Sweet, 6, King's Bench Walks, Temple.

David Moss, Ratcliff Highway, Middlesex, linen-draper, Jan. 23, Feb. 2, 23, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Messrs. Bell and Brodrick, Bow-lane, Cheapside.

Thomas Gaskill and George Gaskill, Lancaster, linen-drapers, Feb. 4, at five, 5, 23, at eleven, at the King's Arms, Lancaster. Attorney, Mr. Baldwin, Lancaster.

John Lawrence, Stainground, Huntingdon, tanner, Jan. 24, 28, at one, Feb. 23, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Hurd, 7, King's-Bench Walks.

Thomas Fisher, Ramsgate, Kent, grocer, Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 23, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Benbow and Hope, Stone-buildings, Lincoln's Inn.

John Paton, Bow Church-yard, London, warehouseman, Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 23, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Warrand, Castle-court, Budge-row.

Peter Boxter, Southampton Buildings, Chancery-lane, mariner, Jan. 26, 30, Feb. 23, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Palmer, Tomlinsons, and Thompson, Copthall-court, Throgmorton-street.

DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 2. J. M. Sawyer, J. F. Trueman, and J. Powell, Cannon-street, merchants, at eleven, at Guildhall.—Feb. 2. R. Jameson and S. M'Quoid, Sherborne-lane, merchants, at one, at Guildhall.—Feb. 29. R. Ander-

son, Guildford-street, merchant, at eleven, at Guildhall. —Feb. 2. R. Gore, Liverpool, linen-draper, at one, at the Royal Hotel, Liverpool.—Feb. 2. J. Robertson and J. Hutchison, Fleet-street, oilmen, at eleven, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 3, R. Foster, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, shopkeeper, at twelve, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 2. E. Townsend, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden, wine and cyder-merchant, at one, at Guildhall, —Feb. 20, T. and M. La P. Merac, Queen-street, Cheapside, warehousemen, at one, at Guildhall.—Feb. 3, M. and J. Wrigley, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, merchants, at two, at the New Delph, Saddleworth.—Feb. 2. R. Riley, Mansfield, maltster, at eleven, at the Swan Inn, Mansfield.—Feb. 3. W. Blinkhorn and J. Musgrave, Foster-lane, Cheapside, merchants, at twelve, at Guildhall.—Feb. 3. A. Hendy, Thornhaugh-street, painter, at twelve, at Guildhall.—Feb. 3.—T. Holland, New South End, Essex, builder, at twelve, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 6. J. Taylor, Lamb's Conduit-street, apothecary, at one, at Guildhall,

CERTIFICATES—FEB. 2.

W. Winder and J. Wheeler, Liverpool, merchants.—J. Briggs, Pilkington, Lancashire, nankeen manufacturer. —W. Radcliffe and T. Ross, Stockport, Cheshire, cotton manufacturers.—C. A. Eschke, Sherborne-lane, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of La Jaseur, French National Brig of 12 guns, and 55 men, by Captain LYE, of his Majesty's ship Bombay. Also the capture of a French Privateer of 16 guns, and 65 men, by his Majesty's Brig Ringdove, and his Majesty's ship Ariadne, the latter commanded by Captain FARQUHAR, with the capture, by the same Officer, of another Privateer of 16 guns and 56 men, having on board the captured crew of the brig Gabriel, of Yarmouth.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

Maurice Da Costa, of Sherborne-lane, London, Merchant.

William Higgs, of Bristol, Hallier, Warehouseman.

BANKRUPTS.

George Barringer, the younger, Brixton-Causeway, Surrey, Salesman, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, at twelve, 27 at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Cross, King-street, Southwark.

William Higgs, Bristol, Coal-merchant, Jan. 29, 30, Feb. 27, at eleven, Bush Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Wintour Harris, jun. Bristol.

John Morgan, Enfield-Highway, Middlesex, Farmer, Jan. 26, 30, Feb. 27, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. J. Platt, Tanfield-court, Temple.

John Ames, Rotherhithe, Surrey, Dealer, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. J. Brown, Blackman-street, Southwark.

Francis Marcellus Hodson, Manchester, Calico-printer, Feb. 2, 3, 27, at three, at the Spread Eagle Inn, Hanging Ditch, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. W. H. Cheek, Manchester.

James Read, Blackman-street, Surrey, linen-draper, Jan. 19, at ten, 26, Feb. 27, at one, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Sweete, King's-bench-walks, Temple.

Samuel Davis, Bury-street, St. Mary-Axe, merchant, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, 27, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Palmer, Tomlinsons, and Thomson, Copthall-court, Throgmorton-street.

Thomas Bowgin, Little New-street, Shoe-lane, plaisterer, Jan. 19, 30, Feb. 27, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Lee, Castle-street, Holborn.

Joseph Pippet, Chewstoke, Somersetshire, colourman, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, 27, at ten, at the George Inn, Shepton-Mallet. Attornies, Messrs. Hyatt and Maskell, Shepton-Mallett.

Thomas Broster, Liverpool, stationer, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Wadeson, Barlow, and Grosvenor, Austin-friars, London.

Samuel Summers, of Milk-street, Cheapside, ribbon-manufacturer, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Baxters and Martin, Furnival's-inn.

John Burdett, of Newgate-street, warehouseman, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Swain, Stevens, and Maples, Old Jewry.

DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 6. S. Fox, Wardour-street, Soho, cabinet-maker, at one, at Guildhall.—Feb. 6. W. Hughes, Queen-street, Borough, porter and cyder merchant, at twelve, at Guildhall.—Feb. 13. R. Naylor, Chigwell, Essex, merchant, at twelve, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 8. J. Mallalieu, Manchester, dealer in cotton twist and weft, at three, at the Palace Inn, Manchester.—Feb. 9. J. Preedy, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, currier, at eleven, at the White Hart Inn, Broadway, Worcestershire.—Feb. 9. T. Mordue, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linen-draper, at twelve, at the Turk's Head, Newcastle. —March 4. J. Townley, Boston, bookseller, at eleven, at the Peacock Inn, Boston.—Feb. 9. G. Morris, Dorking, Surrey, upholsterer, at ten, at Guildhall, London.—Jan. 26. E. Rood, London-street, merchant, at ten, at Guildhall.—Feb. 20. I. Hosch, E. Beintz, Budge-row, London, G. Losh, J. D. Lubbren, and W. Losh, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, factors, at one, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 20. A. Anderson and D. Robertson, Coleman-street, merchants, at one, at Guildhall.—Feb. 27. A. Anderson and D. Robertson, Coleman-street, London, merchants, at one, at Guildhall.—Feb. 20. R. More, Halesworth, Suffolk, linen-draper, at eleven, at Guildhall, London.—Feb. 16. J. Redpath, Deptford-bridge, Kent, upholder, at ten, at Guildhall, London.—March 15. J. Fenner, Lawrence-lane, London, linen-draper, at twelve, at Guildhall.—Feb. 23. A. Anderson, City of London, insurance-broker, at eleven, at Guildhall.—Feb. 16. J. Stokes, City of Worcester, hop-merchant, at ten, at the Hop-Market Inn, Worcester.—Feb. 9. T. Taylor, Birmingham, gun-barrel-maker, at twelve, at the Swan Tavern, Bull-street, Birmingham.—Feb. 10. Wm. Porter, Great Driffield, Yorkshire, grocer, at eleven, at the George Inn, Kingston-upon-Hull.—Feb. 27. W. W. Atkins, Alcester, Warwickshire, grocer, at ten, at Guildhall, London.

CERTIFICATES—FEB. 6.

J. L. Bruton, Princes-street, Rotherhithe, Surrey, Mariner, T. H. Robinson and G. N. Hardey, Liverpool, provision-brokers.—M. Westwood, Crooked-lane, Fish-street-hill, London, cabinet-maker.—J. F. Hughes, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, Middlesex, bookseller.—A. Saunders, Duke-street, St. George's Fields, horse-dealer.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. T. has mistaken the Editor's opinions as singularly as he has mistaken the name by which he addresses him.

Mr. HALUS has been anticipated by the Editor. The subject of his complaint was merely a casual omission.

The Editor will always be happy to receive an epistolary communication from H. R. who writes with taste and vivacity. But is not the subjection of the dialogue to the music the very reason why opera is so much condemned? Now, in concert, you do not expect *characters*, but *mere singers*. The opera, however, is a noble entertainment, with all its faults, and we thank H. R. for his attention.

A WELL-WISHER TO THE EXAMINER is a great Wag

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.
3 per Ct. Cons. 63½⅜ ex. div.—Ditto for Open. 64⅞⅞.
3 per Cent. Red. 63⅞.—Omnium 2¾ prem.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17.

The American Non-Importation Act was carried into effect on the 14th December. It is generally supposed, that this measure is indicative of a determined spirit of hostility against England, but it is not easy to see why. One country may be sometimes actuated by pique or petty malice against another, when it has no serious intentions of war: in fact the most amicacable adjustments very often succeed the most violent measures of recrimination. If America understands her own interest, and I believe she has studied it with no small attention, she will engage in no *mercantile* contest with Great Britain. The petty troubles she might cause in our West Indian possessions would never reimburse her for the loss of our general trade, and for the difficulties she would find against her general intercourse with Europe. Nothing is heard of Mr. G. Rose.

The consequence of the long correspondence between Prince Starhemberg and his Government has been an application to our Secretary of State on the part of his Excellency for passports. In times like these, actual changes have become almost as common as rumours of change. But what could produce hostilities against us from Austria, unless France compels them? What could Austria possibly do to annoy this country? Every facilitation of intercourse with his slaves is already open to Napoleon all over the Continent. The Emperor Francis in short would merely give us the glory of having more enemies and not caring for them. As to the offers of peace which are said to have been made through the medium of Prince Starhemberg, they are just as probable as improbable. I see no exact reason why Napoleon should wish for peace at this juncture, but his proposals of pacification appear very often on the most unexpected occasions. If the Count De Lille, as I have heard, is willing to renounce his claim to the French throne, it is not only a proof of his good sense, but it is a circumstance which would undoubtedly have great weight with Napoleon, who has on various occasions shewn an eagerness for such a renunciation, which he can ill conceal.

The reader will find in this Paper a very careful abridgment of the *Moniteur's* curious comment on the British Declaration. This comment is written with considerable ingenuity and animation, very logical when we have been manifestly wrong, and very sophistical upon points in which the French have been wrong themselves. It commences with a glaring falsehood, by stating that "no engagement was formed at Tilsit, which concerned England in any way." How could an engagement be formed between our first ally and our first enemy, which would not concern this country materially? The name of England might have been omitted in the whole treaty, and yet its best interests, in their relative consideration, might have been agitated and attacked. All this we can know, whether our Government really knew the words of the treaty or not. The most vulnerable point upon which the *Moniteur* attacks us is our neglect in sending succours to our allies, and it must be confessed that it is matter of astonishment to every spirited Englishman that this country never employed its military powers to more determinate advantage than in making a diversion in favour of the idle King of Sicily, in wasting it's valuable soldiers upon Egypt and South America, and in occupying a miserable piece of mud and sand called Hanover? No. 7, contains a very pretty touch of poetical imagery. No. 8, is full of the most bare-faced falsehood. The French have the most consummate modesty to tell us, that they protect and never violate either territory or property, that they never tyrannize in Prussia, or any where else, but they have forgotten their thousand exactions, their petty despotism over private persons and fortunes, they have forgotten the unhappy Palm, the Duke D'Enghein, and the poverty of the King of Prussia, whose style of living is not so good as that of a citizen in Cheapside. The Egyptian overseers pretend to be hospitable.—The conclusion exhibits a remarkable spirit of pacification. It says, that the opposition of principles between the maritime laws of the two countries will be no obstruction to peace. This is a new doctrine after the vehement protestations about the freedom of the seas. But let us beware of this pacificatory inuendo. The conclusion of the miseries of war, so ridiculous as they are in the eyes of reason and so lamentable in the eyes of humanity, is to be desired by every lover of his country. But to make a peace that shall last one or two years merely to give Napoleon leisure to mature his plans for our subjugation, would be to make folly more foolish and misery still more miserable.

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The reported insurrection at Lisbon, which we mentioned in our last, has received additional confirmation, by the arrival on Friday of the following intelligence from Dublin:—

Dublin, Jan. 12.

The following highly interesting intelligence has been just communicated by the Captain of an American vessel, arrived in our harbour this day from Cadiz, which place he left on the 31st ult.—It appears, that previous to his

sailing, letters from Lisbon, dated the 12th and 17th of December, had been received, which stated, that on the 12th, at night, the French having previously taken possession of all the forts, and the remaining ships of war, on which they hoisted French colours, the populace, in immense numbers, commenced an attack upon the French and Spanish troops; that a general engagement took place in the streets, and that great numbers were killed on both sides before the populace were reduced to submission. The following morning General Junot issued a menacing proclamation, threatening the ringleaders, which he said were known, with the most dreadful punishment The immediate execution of the prisoners taken by the French, followed this proclamation; some were shot and many hanged. These dreadful examples, however, were not of sufficient force to prevent a second insurrection, which took place three days after, on the 15th, more dreadful and sanguinary in its effects than the former, in which, our reports state, "between five and six thousand French and Spaniards were killed," and that the most dreadful disorder prevailed in the capital when the last accounts were sent off. The greater part of the troops stationed there are Spanish. To the horrors of insurrection are added the miseries of want, as a scarcity of the most dreadful and affecting kind prevailed generally in and about Lisbon."

A strong reinforcement is immediately to proceed to Halifax, under Sir GEORGE PRESCOTT; and we have reason to believe that Sir JOHN MOORE is on the eve of proceeding on an Expedition.

Though Prince STARHEMBERG has demanded his passports, he is not expected to take his departure for some days. He waits, we believe, for an answer to the dispatches of which M. MIER was the bearer to Count METTERNICH, the Austrian Minister at Paris.

Mr. SANSOM, the Chairman of the Committee of American Merchants, on Friday waited upon the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, to know whether Licences would be granted for the protection of cargoes destined for America. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, he saw no occasion for such Licences, as we were not at war with America; but he did not think there could be any objection to grant them, to satisfy those who might think it necessary to apply for them.

The *Morning Chronicle* of yesterday says that Gen. MACK is now in London, and has frequent conferences with Lord CASTLEREAGH and the Duke of YORK!

The present paper contains the trials of a Sea Captain upon a charge of murder, and two coroners' verdicts upon similar charges. These fellows are all Captains of *Slave*-ships. That the monster whose trial is given at large has been acquitted, is matter of astonishment to the whole public. He is hung however in the wishes of every honest and humane being. We understand that during the trial he was looking about him and picking his teeth. But an infernal trade must have devils to conduct it.

We fear that the tremendous gale of Thursday night and Friday has done great damage at sea. The towns of Deal and Margate have suffered considerably. The sea broke with such tremendous violence as to threaten their destruction.

Orders have been transmitted to all the Dock-yards, for an immediate return of every vessel that can, with the utmost possible expedition, be added to the force of the country within three months.

Yesterday, at the Middlesex Sessions, 15 journeymen were indicted by Mr. Limebeer, of Fleet-street, boot-maker, for conspiring to raise their wages. Guilty.

Yesterday, at the Old Bailey, *John Adams* was found guilty of wilfully cutting William Barnett, a constable, with intent to murder or grievously injure him.

Parliament meet on Thursday next.

The Bank of England is said to have offered to lend Government ten millions for one year, without interest; but that the offer has been declined, as not being adequate to their expectations. There must be some inaccuracy in this statement.

AMOUNT OF THE LOSS OF NORTHERN COMMERCE.—In the year ending the 5th of January, 1807, 1,938 ships and 217,839 tons weight, cleared from England and Scotland to the ports of Northern Europe, being little short of a sixth of the British commerce to all parts of the world. In 1805, when the northern exports of Britain amounted to 15,164,000l. the whole value of exports of British produce and manufactures, was 40,349,642l. in 1807, 43,242,176l. It is fair, therefore, to take the loss of this trade according to the proportion it bore in 1805. Added to this immense loss, is that of the profit of foreign postage, which was 109,000l. for the year 1807. This is from Parliamentary report. Politicians are, however, divided in opinion whether the loss of commerce would be injurious to Britain.

The Great Hall in Chelsea Hospital is to be fitted up for the important trial of General WHITELOCKE, which will commence on Thursday. The rumour which has gone abroad that none but General Officers in uniform would be admitted to the trial, is erroneous: the Court, like every other, will be an open one. The publication of the proceedings will not take place till after their termination.

It is stated in some private letters brought by the Gottenburgh Mails, that the resources of the King of PRUSSIA were so much diminished by the exactions of the French troops in his dominions, thas he was scarcely able to maintain even the rank of a private gentleman. His guards had been dismissed, his attendants reduced, and his table confined to two covers.

The King of SWEDEN has resumed the personal exercise of his Government at Stockholm: his long and frequent absence from his metropolis, and an imagined aversion to his capital, have been the cause of an unpopularity which may now be removed.

A correspondent assures us, that on a calculation which has been made, it appears that the sum demanded by the associated horse-keepers, of the inhabitants of this metropolis, exceeds 2000l. per day, or upwards of 700,000l. per annum; a sum surpassing the interest of the great national loan, and rivalling even French requisitions.

The superb dress worn by the Duke of BEDFORD at the marriage of the Prince of WALES, which cost 1000l. was sold last week at an auction, for 15l. only.

A new Comedy is in rehearsal at each Theatre. They are to be brought out in a few days.

The late high winds have done considerable damage in various parts of the country, as well as on the coasts.

One of the private letters received by the last conveyance from France states, that the Empress JOSEPHINE is in a *state of pregnancy!*

We are happy to announce the safe arrival of Lord HUTCHINSON. His Lordship reached Yarmouth on Saturday se'nnight. The vessel he was on board of came into the Roads, towed in by a fishing smack, having unshipped her rudder.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

Wednesday, about twelve o'clock, the ROYAL FAMILY arrived at the Queen's Palace, from Windsor.—Soon after two, his MAJESTY held a private Levee, when the following had the honour of being presented:

Lord Levison Gower, on his return from his embassy to the Court of St. Petersburgh.

Messrs. Smith and Phillips, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, on their election to their office.

Major-General Paget, on his promotion and return from Sicily.

Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore, on his return from Sicily.

The Rev. Mr. Digby, on his being appointed one of the Canons of Windsor.

Mr. Stewart, on his return from being Secretary to the Embassy at St. Petersburgh.

Lieutenant-General Villettes, on being appointed to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Jamaica, and Commander of the Forces there.

Mr. Garlike, on his return from the Courts of Copenhagen and Prussia.

Brigadier-General Lumley, on his return from South America.

Sir Stephen Shairp, on his return from St. Petersburgh.

Major-General Frazer, on his return from the Mediterranean.

Colonel Kempt, on being appointed Quarter-Master-General to the Forces in North America.

Colonel Henry Clinton, on his return from Sicily.

Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, on his promotion and return from Buenos Ayres,

Major-General Oakes, on his return from Sicily.

His MAJESTY gave audiences to the Cabinet Ministers, Lord LEVISON GOWER, and Mr. GARLIKE; and held a Privy Council, at which the RECORDER of LONDON attended, and made his Report.

The Prince of WALES will not, it is said, go to Court to-morrow, but will pay his congratulatory compliments to his Royal Mother, at the Queen's House. The Princess of WALES will go to the Drawing-room; but her Royal Highness's Mother does not mean to be present.

LOUIS XVIII. and the whole of the French Princes, visited the Marquis of BUCKINGHAM, at Stowe, on Wednesday last. The King was received by the Marquis of BUCKINGHAM, Lord TEMPLE, and Lord GEO. GRENVILLE, at the foot of the steps, in their full Yeomanry uniform. The Marquis conducted the King to the North Hall, where he presented him to the Marchioness, and his daughter Lady MARY GRENVILLE, and then severally to the Ladies who were there assembled. After which the whole Company proceeded to the magnificent Saloon, where they were received by music, a grand band of which gave "God Save the King," in the best style, and with the most admirable effect. When the Marquis drank after dinner, "The Illustrious House of Bourbon," the music gave the well-known air of "*Oh! Richard! Oh! Mon Roi,*" &c.; the feelings which this occasioned may be conceived, but cannot be expressed. "The King, and prosperity to Great Britain," was then toasted by his MAJESTY; and "The Ladies at Mittau," (the QUEEN and the Comptess D'ANGOULEME) were afterwards drank. In the evening there were music and dancing, after which the company sat down to an elegant supper.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

It is with me a matter of the highest consideration what parts are well or ill performed, what passions or sentiments are indulged or cultivated, and consequently what manners and customs are transfused from the Stage to the world, which reciprocally imitate each other.

SPECTATOR, No. 370.

No. 3.

CRITICISM ON THE NEW PLAY CALLED THE WANDERER. ITS INTEREST AND ABRUPT CONCLUSION. INCONSISTENCIES IN THE CHARACTER OF ITS HERO. MISS SMITH'S EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE. MR. C. KEMBLE'S ERRORS OF BYE-PLAY.

Mr. CHARLES KEMBLE has presented us with another translation from the French, in a piece called the *Wanderer*, or the *Rights of Hospitality*, which was performed at Covent Garden on Tuesday. The modesty of this Gentleman, who confines himself to translation and imitation, sets an excellent example to those dramatic scrawlers who are possessed with such an incontinent spirit of authorship. There is as much difference between such imitators and such original writers, as between a Grecian statue, which is an imitation of nature, and a monstrous African idol, which is original merely because it is like nothing upon earth.

The *Wanderer* is evidently an imitation of a late French drama upon the misfortunes of the Scotch Pretender. I recollect the mention of this play, either in some English magazine, or, more probably, in a French newspaper, to which I cannot now refer; but the writer appeared to have fallen under the displeasure of NAPOLEON, who certainly would not wish to see his subjects inspired with pity for unfortunate Princes.—It is said, that Mr. CHARLES KEMBLE originally translated the piece just as it stood in the French, but that the Lord Chamberlain objected to its hero as a personage not altogether proper to excite the sympathies of an English audience. I am sorry for it. How could his Majesty's Government, or liege subjects, be possibly endangered, in times like these, by the ghost of the Pretender? Thank Heaven, our government is neither French nor Spanish; and, in my opinion, it would have done honour to its liberality to have allowed us one theatric tear for its former courageous though mistaken enemies.

The translator with much historical ingenuity has transformed his hero Prince CHARLES EDWARD into SIGISMUND, King of Poland, who at the beginning of the 17th century was dispossessed of the crown of Sweden by his uncle Charles the Ninth. This is a very happy transformation, since the Polish Prince was deprived of his throne on account of the same religious

attachments as those of the Scotch Prince. All the other persons seem to have been transformed also, except a Scotch servant, who is placed in a Swedish family for no other apparent purpose than to shew the original character of the play. This venerable piece of living furniture exhibits a strange appearance in such a family: a Scotchman who emigrates merely to become a servant must be a phenomenon in private history.

The interest of the piece, which is in fact a melodrama in three acts, as it contains singing and dancing, arises from the wanderings of *Sigismund* and his protection by a Swedish Countess, who takes advantage of her husband's absence to introduce him to the Swedish officers then upon duty near her castle, as the Count himself. Of course the military bustle, the dread of the Count's arrival, and the conjectures and searches of the officers for *Sigismund* who is suspected to be in the neighbourhood, create much interesting alarm, but we are so often reminded of those stories of escape which the stage has lately presented us in farces and melodramas, that we contemplate the event as something inevitably successful, and are inclined to wish for more consummate shifts, for more surprizing fancies of expedient. The conclusion has the great fault of abruptness. *Sigismund* escapes from his enemies, but you hear nothing more of his fate. This is a considerable disappointment, for in the course of the play our interest is excited for a lady whom he appears to love and for friends whom he promises to reward, but we hear nothing further either of his love or his gratitude.

The misfortunes of royalty are among the finest subjects of the drama, for they interest by the strongest force of contrast. All our pity then is prepared for *Sigismund* the moment he enters the house of his last refuge and begs a glass of water and a piece of bread for "the grandson of Gustavus Vasa:" but the Prince indulges his miseries with rather too pitiable an expression; he weeps too often and too impatiently, and his descents from royal firmness to mere lamentation are sometimes so full of selfish distress, as to become abject. Kings, I allow, are sometimes the weakest of men, and hunger and fatigue may do much to weigh down the spirit, but history does not inform us that *Sigismund* was such a man, and it is nobler for a Prince to fortify himself with a proud despair than to overthrow all his energies by a weeping despondency: our pity is apt to become languid and indifferent when we behold a royal warrior behaving neither like a king nor like a soldier. The other characters are more consistently drawn. The *Countess Valdersheim* is a lady of proper feeling, whose sensibility does not hinder her exertion. *Colonel Baner* is a rough soldier, with much plain-spoken mediocrity of thinking, a character strongly and naturally sketched.

The dialogue is characterised, like that of the *Point of Honour*, by an unaffected and correct neatness. Mr. Charles Kemble writes like a man who has read the best authors, and who has found their best charm to consist in a graceful intelligibility. The humour does not attempt much, but when it does, it is not only inefficient but unseasonable. The venerable Scotchman should not be so jocose when the dignified and mysterious stranger is sleeping in a chair before him covered with rags, and oppressed with fatigue and misery. The good old servant would have been more inclined, I should imagine, to weep than to laugh.

The performance of the piece was in general very spirited. Miss Norton in the young lady who is attached to the Prince, displayed her usual good sense and modesty: her delivery, in spite of that monotonous undulation which young actresses are apt to imagine necessary to serious dialogue, always gathers a peculiar charm from it's melodious distinctness. Miss Smith, in the *Countess*, had one of her happiest characters, a youthful matron full of dignity and chaste feeling. I never saw her sensibility to more advantage. Her perusal of the letter in which the Count assures her of his safety and announces his return, was full of unaffected animation: the glister of her fine eyes at the sight of his hand-writing, the tremulous seriousness with which she read of his hardships, and the tearful burst of smiles at the assurance of his safety, presented a various picture worthy of the best moments of Mrs. Siddons.

I must confess I expected a better *Sigismund* in Mr. Charles Kemble. I could not wish more personal grace, or more personal dignity; but I expected a more consistent action and a better stage-judgment. He was always correct in the scenes that allowed him the full indulgence of his feelings, but when he acted the part of the *Count*, and had another character to sustain, he should have appeared to forget the excessive sorrows of the Prince. His by-play, in his interviews with the Swedish Gentlemen, threw an air of contradiction over the whole drama. What must the Officers have thought, when they saw the *Count* continually occupied in gestures of sorrow or despair? I allow, that there ought to have been a strange disturbed something in the general manners of the pretended husband, and I grant also, that a dignified Prince might not be perfectly at his ease in maintaining a deceit; but the Prince who could condescend to be introduced to his enemies in a fictitious character, might also condescend to secure the safety of his introducers by assisting their deception. If a man in the situation of *Sigismund* were to act like Mr. Charles Kemble, an explanation would be pertinaciously demanded or the *Count* would be thought a madman.

I wish I could prevail with Mr. Fawcett to give up his old men to Mr. Blanchard or Mr. Simmons.—Whenever he performs old age, he invariably becomes louder and stronger as the piece advances, and every body knows he ought to become the reverse. He might as well attempt to make a waggon wheel move over a gravel-road without grinding, as endeavour to suit the harsh growl of his voice to feeble age.

The prologue and epilogue possessed the same spirit of pert mediocrity. The former, in no very happy allusion to the play, talked of the present glorious independence of Sweden and of its *great* Gustavus, yet in the last lines it anticipates his submission to France: the word *magnanimous* would not do for the metre, or we should have had the old ally epithet applied once more to the Swedish Monarch. The prologues does not mention, that Gustavus swore to die in the ruins of Stralsund and was the first to run away.

The epilogue was excessively frivolous. Miss Norton was made to promise a kiss to any one who should catch her. This is a bad imitation of the epilogue to *As You Like It*. An actress should be suffered to consider two things before she is obliged to repeat such nonsense; first, whether it does any good to a female performer to mingle thus familiarly with the audience; and, second, whether the audience would have any inclination to take advantage of her familiarity.

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THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir—After the criticisms which have so long adorned the pages of the *News*, and which are now continued with equal success in the Examiner, it is something to attempt remarks on the theatrical exhibitions of this metropolis; but as the strictures in your Paper have been chiefly confined to the English Theatres, I have ventured to offer a few observations on the Italian Opera, which, as the principal public amusement of the higher classes, should not be passed unnoticed by those who profess a general review of the times. I am induced to make these remarks, chiefly on account of the miserable treatment this Theatre receives from the incorrect reports of the daily newspapers, which are evidently written by persons not present at the performances. If I claim no other merit, I shall have that of accuracy, unbiassed by prejudice.

This building, sacred to *Apollo*, has always suffered under the imputation of the unmusical and illiberal, who, preferring the jingle of Reeve, or the empty rattle of Ware, to the divine strains of Mozart or Cimarosa, have incessantly exclaimed against the encouragement of foreigners, and the ridiculous inconsistencies of the Italian Operas. With relation to the former there cannot surely be any blame in rewarding great talents, though from a foreign country, unless that reward prevents the patronage of similar abilities in those of our own nation; that this evidently is not the case, we have only to remember the illustrious support which Mrs. Billington and Mr. Braham have received. The improprieties and absurdities of the representations cannot so well be vindicated, but even these have been exaggerated. The folly of dying in chromatics and sorrowing in semibreves does not appear so great, when it is considered that the action of the drama is merely intended as an ornament to the music, not the music as a natural accompaniment to the action. Surely this is more consistent with propriety than a concert unaided by scenic deception, where a man, with a music book in his hand, and perhaps spectacles on his nose, rises to sing "Total Eclipse;" or a female in all the finery of evening dress, with the smile of self-approbation on her countenance, cries vehemently for guards, to "lead her to the rack or to the torture!" Who can be told without risibility, that one is the eyeless *Samson*, and the other the resigned *Theodora*?

We have this season been presented with a delightful opera of Paesiello, which displays Catalani to more advantage than any other in which she has yet appeared. Playfulness and vivacity appear congenial to her natural disposition, and nature on the stage is always pleasing. We have hitherto seen her small but elegant figure pressed with a load of regal ornaments, and a constant smile on her face, which neither the sorrows of *Cleopatra*, nor the misplaced love of *Semiramis*, could repress. It is Grassini alone who can personify the dignified characters of history or mythology. In the light music of *La Frascatana*, Catalani is divested of that profusion of ornament, with which she disguised the music of the operas produced last season, and which rendered it very immaterial to the hearer whether she sung the lofty strains of Cimarosa, or the dry insipidity of Portogallo. But she has now employed her amazing powers to more advantage; she has endeavoured to please rather than surprize, which endeavour will always succeed, when she does not attempt the higher walks of the drama, for which neither her genius nor figure are calculated. The music of Paesiello is remarkable for its extreme elegance, the great beauty of the melodies, and that degree of science which tends to enrich the composition without fatiguing the ear. It is calculated to charm at once the professor and the amateur.

H. R.

FINE ARTS.

ANGELICA KAUFMAN.

The pious composure and fortitude with which this amiable artist bore her last, long, painful illness, adds to the respect for her exemplary life. She died at Rome, the 7th of November last, aged 67. In this venerable and tastful city, where the genius of painting is the goddess of adoration, her death excited universal concern. All ranks were emulous of testifying their respect for her memory. Her funeral was performed with decorous pomp, and unusual solemnity. The members of all the literary societies of Rome, many of the nobility, and above 100 Ecclesiastics in their respective habits, walked in the procession.—Young ladies in white supported the pall, and the body was followed by some of Angelica's best pictures, borne on the shoulders of the mourners. This lady honoured, and was honoured by the London Royal Academy, by being appointed one of its members at its institution. Among modern female artists of distinction, there is not one so generally known and admired. Rachel Roos, a few others in the Flemish School, Elizabeth Serani in the time of Guido, and his imitator, and Rosalba, in the beginning of the last century, at Venice, bore away the palm from every female artist previous to Angelica. The godlike form of man and its divinely inspired inhabitant, were however but feebly pourtrayed by her predecessors and herself, but her more fortunate ambition has attained rather a higher rank than theirs among the painters of intellect. The grandeur of epic painting has never been conceived by female genius. In poetry, painting and musical composition, its best strength has been adequate only to display the gentler feelings of the human heart. Like Sappho, the greatest poetess, this best modern paintress excelled in amatory sub-

jects. But her best praise resulted from the "softness, the sweet attractive grace" of her females, and they would have been more so, had her slender knowledge of anatomy been extended. This exquisite feminine delicacy is altogether her own, and unattained by the bolder hand of the rougher sex. With this exception, she was nearly devoid of originality, and so great a mannerist, that having seen one of her pieces, the most ignorant in art could not mistake her paintings for another's. As to a male in her pictures we should in vain look for one if he was not indicated by the masculine attire. To say the best of them, they are of the doubtful gender, of the epicene family of Hermaphroditus. The antique cannot be too much studied by an aspiring artist, but ANGELICA was a servile imitator of it, she therefore excelled in poetical subjects from Greek and Roman Mythology, which the antique is so peculiarly fitted to illustrate. Though there is a flimsiness yet much delicacy of taste is displayed in her draperies and braiding of the hair; she was the mantua-maker and friseur of the Loves and Graces. After all, she was more indebted for her estimation in England to the powers of the ingenious and unfortunate RYLAND than her own, in the greater vigour, correctness of drawing, and brilliancy of his beautiful chalk translations with the graver. He has perhaps conferred immortality on works which Mr. FUSELI has contemptuously called "a bundle of rags."

R. H.

LAW.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

Wednesday, Jan. 13.

SOAME P. COWARD.

This was the case of an application for an injunction to stay the execution of two contracts for annuities bought at two years, and at one and a half year's purchase; the money produced by such annuities to be paid into Court, until the determination of the cause.

After Sir S. ROMILLY and Mr. RICHARDS had been heard—

The LORD CHANCELLOR said, that he had often doubted of the principles of public policy defended on occasions of this kind. Lord Thurlow had remarked, that the legislative provisions in such instances probably were not beneficial in guarding those they were intended to protect. The jurisdiction, however, having been fixed, it did not lay with his Lordship to decide if it ought to be exercised. He would say, that in many cases it had a bad effect on the morals of young men, who were expectant heirs, and who, if they were sometimes cheated by others, were not unfrequently chargeable with fraud themselves. The Court had not said that a young man should not deal with his expectations, nor had the Parliament said it; but this Court, on maxims of public policy, had thrown round persons so dealing a shield of security, with which it did not guard other contracts. It was not only for the sake of the individual, but for the protection of the particular family to which that individual belonged; and the design was, that the property should not be conveyed into the hands of every Jew who would deal with them. A man under the pressure of immediate want, without the ordinary means of supply, stood in a situation in which he might be tempted to sacrifice his best interests to his temporary necessities; and so far there was policy in the law when it says, that if you deal with the future expectations of a party so situated, you shall shew that the bargain is reasonable and provident. The case of Evans and Chesshyre was one of great inadequacy, and there had been none posterior of the like imposition.

Sir S. ROMILLY said, that it was a post obit bond, to pay two for one.

The LORD CHANCELLOR resumed. The facts here were these:—With respect to the first, which was an annuity for 100l. an advertisement was inserted in the public papers, stating, that such an annuity was to be disposed of, payable out of a reversionary interest. It called upon all mankind to judge what they would give by public auction for this annual receipt, to commence upon the death of a Lady of 61, if a Gentleman of 40 years of age survived her. The lot was put up, and no one was found to bid more than two years' purchase. Now, unless it was made out that the auction was deceptive and fraudulent, his Lordship could not say that an injunction should go: without additional circumstances, there was not suspicion enough to call upon him to interpose. In the other annuity, there was the same option two years afterwards; the income to depend upon the lives of the same parties. Only one and a half year's purchase was given; the bidding was open, but there was no competition. His Lordship thought that this situation of things did justify the Court in examining into this transaction, and for that purpose granting an injunction; and in the mean time it would be reasonable, that the annuity should be paid into Court.

ADMIRALTY SESSIONS:

CHARGE OF MURDER.

William Chapman, the Captain of a Liverpool SLAVE SHIP, was on Monday indicted for the wilful murder of Robert Dunn, by exposing him naked to the weather, by starving him, and by repeated acts of cruelty and ill-treatment.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL opened the case, when G. Scott, the Doctor on board the ship, and the principal evidence, together with Richard Smith, Henry Nutson, John Burrie, and others of the ship's crew, were called to corroborate the case made out. To enter into a detail of their evidence would fill a Newspaper; we shall therefore confine ourselves to the substance, which is as follows:—

The deceased was sent out by one of the owners of the ship, and it appeared that the Captain had taken an early dislike to him, from a suspicion that he was placed on board as a spy on the conduct of the ship's officers. The ship had not left Liverpool more than a month when the deceased having spilt some molasses, received five dozen lashes by the Captain's orders. From that time, September 1807, till the 31st of March 1807, the deceased experienced an uninterrupted series of ill-treatment and privation. Every fault, though of the most trivial sort, was visited with the severest chastisement:—He was suspended hours together with a chain round the middle, and left swinging in a horizontal position—he was tied up by the neck, his toes just touching the deck, till he was nearly strangled; he was again suspended by the legs, with his fingers' ends resting upon the hatchways, till the blood, having overcharged the vessels of the head and brain, he became insensible. Again he was exposed naked to the weather, and compelled, in the midst of a cold rain, to wring out the swabs, and was employed to empty the tubs in which the slaves deposited their filth. On one occasion, when he had upset one of these tubs upon the deck, the Captain beat him with a handspike, and bruised and lacerated his body in a most pitiable way; the blood flowed from his head and covered his shoulders. He likewise had his head half shaved and painted, his body marked with colours, and suspended by his wrists, tied at the extreme ends of a broomstick. In this way he let the slaves upon deck to laugh at him. His daily allowance was a pound of yam or bread, and three half pints of water, and, of course, his body became emaciated, and his flesh and strength dwindled away. He was also beat over the face

and eyes with the handle of a cat, and these various acts of cruelty and chastisement repeated almost daily. The last act of cruelty, however, was when the poor wretch was discovered lying in the place where the pigs were kept. He again used the handspike, and beat him with it from head to foot. The deceased crawled to the forecastle, where he lay with a mat to cover him, incapable of moveing. He continued in that situation till he expired, about three or four days after. The Captain was told of his death, and exclaimed—"D—n his eyes, throw him overboard." The Doctor's description of the dead body was as follows:—"The face was so swelled that his eyes could not be seen—his head was also swelled, and his hair clotted with blood—his breast-bone stuck out like a wedge—his back appeared to be humped—his belly was shrunk in—his whole frame was emaciated, and his body covered with bruises."

On the ship's arrival at the Island of St. Dominica, the Doctor swore to the entry in the log-book, respecting the decease of Dunn, in which it appeared that he died of extreme nervous debility and exhaustion: but this was qualified by the Doctor in his evidence, by saying, that he made the entry under the apprehension that his life would be in danger if he did otherwise, the Captain having punished him in the way of a common man, for having in his absence given away a bottle of rum to a Mate who had newly come on board. He left Dominica, however, in about a fortnight afterwards, and in two days reached Montserrat, where he made a disclosure to the Magistracy of the facts before stated, and he and the witnesses were sent home in the Northumberland to give evidence against the prisoner. The Captain was also sent home in the same ship; and in the way he corresponded with one Evans, a marine on board the Northumberland, the letters to whom were given to Smith, and by him shewn to the doctor and the part of the crew detained to give evidence. These letters were now in Court, and breathed a spirit of contrition on the part of the Captain for his ill-treatment of his crew, promises to give each 100l. if they will appear on his behalf at the trial, and contradict the assertions of the Doctor: tells them his life was in their hands, and they must assist in attaining his liberty. Assures them that the depositions taken at Montserrat were all destroyed, and could not be brought against him: therefore, if they were all of one mind, and would falsify the Doctor's evidence, he might still have his freedom. He concluded several of his letters by hoping to God he should escape through their means, and assured the men, if they behaved generously to him, he would never forsake them nor their interests.

Dr. Powell and Mr. Ramsden were called in behalf of the prosecution, and stated, that if the treatment ascribed to the Captain was true, they had no doubt but it would occasion death. The hanging by the heels was sufficient to have produced apoplexy.

The Prisoner, when called on for his defence, gave in a written paper, stating, that he had the misfortune to have a turbulent and mutinous crew, and that he was compelled to have recourse to severities in order to maintain his command. Smith, the gunner, after disobeying his orders, said, he had the key of the magazine, and would blow up the ship; and on another occasion, eleven out of twenty-five of his crew went on shore. In short, that the whole was a conspiracy to take away his life, and the charge had been made up by the Doctor out of revenge, he, the prisoner, having punished him for his misconduct. With respect to the letters he sent, he was obliged to have recourse to that expedient, as the only probable way of saving his life, as he found the whole of the crew leagued against him.

The prisoner's Counsel then called Captain Bell, Capt. Duberley, and the Purser of a vessel called the Challenge, who deposed, that they heard Scott say to the crew, in a drinking-house at Montserrat, "I'll make him repent flogging me. We must all be of one mind, or we shall do nothing."

Captain Brown, of the Eliza slave ship, then deposed to the mutinous state of the crew of the prisoner's ship; and Captain D'Arcey, the commander of a Guineaman, gave the prisoner a good character for humanity!

Mr. Justice LE BLANC summed up the evidence, and after commenting at great length, said it was a question purely with respect to the credibility of witnesses. If they believed the facts deposed on the part of the prosecution, they certainly amounted to murder; but if they thought the facts had been overcharged, and the case had been made up of pique, rather than of public justice, then they would take the improbability of the case into consideration, and say, whether, under all the circumstances, the prisoner was not entitled to their acquittal.

The Jury withdrew at five minutes after nine at night, and did not return with their verdict until ten minutes after three in the morning, when they pronounced the prisoner NOT GUILTY.

The short contents of two other indictments, the one charging the prisoner with the wilful murder of Wm. Anson, and the other charging him with a similar crime upon Henry Johnson, on board the said ship, on the high seas, within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, were read; and there being no evidence, a verdict of ACQUITTAL was pronounced upon each!!!

OLD BAILEY.

Friday, January 15.

CHARGE OF MURDER.

Ann Thompson was indicted for the wilful murder of Joseph Walker, by stabbing him with a knife in the side, on the 26th of December last.

Mr. POOLEY opened the case for the prosecution, and stated the following facts:—The deceased was a sailor of colour, who cohabited with the prisoner in Denmark-street, near Ratcliffe Highway. On the day of the accident the prisoner and the deceased had been quarrelling very much, and in the evening she shut him out of doors. He attempted several times to gain admittance, but she constantly refused to let him. At length, however, he went through a back yard, and, as the prisoner said, got in at a back window. What then passed could only be known from the relation of the prisoner herself. She said, he beat her very violently, and that in the scuffle she unfortunately wounded him with the knife.

The first persons who saw the accident, was a woman of the name of Murray, and a sailor, called Matthew Anthony: they were alarmed at his groans, and when they entered the house, they found the deceased lying on the ground, and the prisoner weeping over him; they put him on a chair, and on examination they found that he had been wounded near the bottom of the belly, and the intestines were partly out of the wound. The prisoner said, "This is the bloody knife, and this the bloody hand which did it." Anthony advised her to send for a Doctor, and to say that he came home drunk and wounded; but she would not say otherwise than she did it herself. She asked the deceased to forgive her, and he said, "I freely forgive you, Nancy." The deceased was carried to the Hospital, and the prisoner attended him with great tenderness until he died. These facts being proved, four witnesses for the defendant proved that the deceased, on the night of the accident, was shut out of the prisoner's house, and he made several ineffectual attempts to gain admission, swearing that if he did get at her he would do for her. One witness saw him go round an alley, which led to the back part of the house, and soon afterwards she heard a great noise, and the prisoner screaming murder.—The Jury found her guilty of manslaughter.

Martha Davis, of Dyott-street, was indicted for a highway robbery, by assaulting Charles Titswell, and feloniously robbing him of half a crown and his hat.—Guilty.

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

On Wednesday evening, between six and seven o'clock, as Mr. Thomas Oldfield, a cow-keeper, who resides a short distance in Islington Fields, from White Conduit-house, was returning home along the foot path, he was met by a soldier, who called out to him to stop. Mr. Oldfield answered, "I suppose you want my money?" He replied, "Yes, deliver." Mr. Oldfield put his left hand into his pocket, took out a sixpence and a penny, and while he was in the act of delivering it, he gave the soldier a violent blow with his right hand, which knocked him backwards; a violent scuffle ensued, in which Mr. Oldfield succeeded in wresting his bayonet from him. Mr. Oldfield's son being near at hand, and some voices being heard, the soldier extricated himself from Mr. Oldfield, and ran off, leaving his great coat behind him. Mr. Oldfield found Cox and his party of the Patrole, and gave information; and they, by means of his bayonet and great coat, traced the robber to be a man of the name of Walker, belonging to the London Militia. They found him at his lodgings in Pentonville, and took him before Mr. GRAHAM, at nine o'clock, who committed him for trial.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Two more charges of murder have been adduced against the Captains of *slave* ships; one on the body of William Steed, surgeon of the Narcissus Guineaman, who was found dead in the Fishmarket, Jamaica, on the 13th November; and another on the body of Wm. Wood, second mate of the Eliza Guineaman. Inquests were held on their bodies, when verdicts of "Wilful Murder" were brought in against Captains Laffer and Lundy, and Alexander Miller, mate of the Hilsborough Guineaman. The body of Wood had been buried by order of Capt. Laffer; but was taken up and examined, when a Surgeon pronounced that his death must have been caused by violence, several marks of blows appearing on the head, breast, &c.

On Tuesday se'nnight Barbara Allen was tried at Edinburgh for the murder of her child, about eighteen months old, on the 8th ult. It was proved that she took the infant on her knee, and poured down its throat a quantity of oil of vitriol, pretending that she was giving it raw sugar, to clear its throat. The child lingered till evening, and then died in excruciating torments. The Jury found her guilty. She was sentenced for execution on the 10th of next month.

Some time ago Mr Aris, Keeper of the House of Correction, Clerkenwell, nearly lost his life by a person, who was in the habit of conveying spirituous liquors to a friend in the gaol. This practice being at length suspected, some hints were communicated to this visitant that he would be punished. On his next visit he was challenged by Mr. Aris, and told that he must be searched. He positively denied that he had then, to his knowledge, any spirituous liquors about him. His pockets were, however, searched, and a bottle found full in one of them. This Mr. Aris instantly uncorked, and applied to his mouth, to ascertain the liquor. He suffered the greatest torture in consequence, for the bottle contained oil of vitriol! evidently intended for Mr. Aris, or any of his people who should incautiously attempt a detection in the like manner. The man, who was of respectable appearance, denied, with perfect sang-froid, that he knew of the bottle being in his great-coat pocket, and pretended just then to remember he had bought it for some experiments, a day or two before, at a chemist's in the Strand, and had totally forgetton it was in his pocket: but added, it was not his fault, nor his desire, that Mr. Aris chose to taste it. What was to be done? It was impossible to prove the malicious intention; and this fellow, therefore, escaped punishment.

A strict search is, we understand, making after a nest of swindlers, who for years infested, and who have lately absconded from the neighbourhood of one of the fashionable squares. The firm consisted of two ladies and a gentleman: the latter posted in the back ground, and appearing only when wanted. Their depredations were carried to an incredible length. One of the ladies is said to be the daughter of an opulent and respectable citizen.

Edward P——, Esq. a Captain in the army, and brother to Sir John P——, Bart. in a fit of despair, put an end to his existence on Tuesday, at his lodgings, in Ramsgate, by shooting himself through the head. The deceased was on his passage to Madeira, for the recovery of his health, which had been in a very precarious state.

A fire broke out at an early hour on Tuesday morning at the cottage of a widow of the name of Forman, between Kilburn-road and Bayswater. The mother had gone out and left a boy and girl, the eldest not four years of age, the clothes of the girl caught fire, and the flames communicated to a bed. The interior of the cottage was destroyed, and the child was burnt so that her life is in danger.

On Wednesday the Recorder made a report to his Majesty of the following convicts under sentence of death in Newgate; viz.—Mary Crooks, alias Viney, for stealing bank notes, &c. in a dwelling-house; Michael Brady, for stealing goods in a dwelling-house; Jane Mosenau, for a like offence; John Almond, for forgery; Elizabeth Tippett, for uttering counterfeit money; Margaret Norton, for stealing goods, &c. in a dwelling-house; and Michael Tuhoy, for a like offence. When John Almond was ordered for execution on Wednesday next.—The rest were respited during pleasure.—Bullock was not reported.

MARRIAGES.

On Sunday, at Ramsgate, Lord Keith, to Miss Thrale, eldest daughter of the late H. Thrale, Esq.

On Wednesday, Miles Stringer, Esq. to Miss Steward, of Blackwall.

DEATHS.

On the 24th of December, at her daughter's house, Brough, Isabella Green, relict of the late Francis Green, of Mary-le-bone New-road.

On the 5th inst. at Elk House, Fifeshire, Sir Philip Anstruther, Bart. He is succeeded in his title and estates by the Right Hon. Sir John Anstruther, Bart. late Chief Justice of Bengal.

On the 8th inst. at Southampton, Edward Edwin Colman, Esq. late Lieut.-Colonel in the 84th Regiment.

On the 9th inst. at Bermondsey, Thomas Carter, Esq. in the 66th year of his age, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Surrey.

On Sunday morning last, John Beale, Esq. of Assembly-row, Mile-End, aged 75.

On Monday, at the Rectory House, the Rev. Dr. Taylor, Rector of Wotton, Surrey.

On Monday last, at Kingston House, near Oxford, Lady Mackworth, wife of Sir Digby Mackworth, Bart.

On the 5th instant, at Dartmouth, Mrs. Hunt, wife of Thomas Holdsworth Hunt, Esq. late of Oporto.

On Sunday morning last, at his house in Spital-square, William Comptin, Esq. in the 80th year of his age.

At his house, at Islington, George Franklin, Esq. stock-broker.

On Sunday morning last, at her house in Upper Guildford-street, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs. Ledington.

On Thursday se'nnight, in the 23d year of his age, Lord Alexander Gordon, second son of the Duke of Gordon. In consequence of his death, the Houses of Gordon, Bedford, Richmond, Manchester, and Cornwallis, go into mourning.

Printed and published by JOHN HUNT, at the EXAMINER Office, 15, Beaufort Buildings, Strand.—Price 7½d.